

Please delete the heading at line 1, on page 1, and add the following new paragraphs after the title on page 1:

Description

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of parent application Serial No. 09/857,920 filed on June 11, 2001, which claims the benefit as a National Stage entry of a PCT application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 371, of International Application No. PCT/DE00/03289 filed September 21, 2000, published in the German language, which in turn claims priority, in its parent case, of German Application No. 199 50 253.6 filed October 18, 1999.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention--

Please add the following new heading after the first full paragraph on page 1:

--2. The Prior Art--

Please add the following new heading after the third full paragraph on page 1:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Please add the following new heading on line 1 of page 5:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Please add the following new heading before the paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--

Please replace the list of reference numerals on page 6 with the following list:

- 1 Tube mat
- 2 Tubes
- 3 Tube closure
- 4 Top side of tube mat
- 5 Bead
- 6 Bridge of closure
- ~~7 Tube mat~~
- ~~8 Tubes~~
- ~~9 Tube closure~~
- ~~10 Tube closure~~
- 11 First face side of the tube mat
- 12 Second face side of the tube mat
- 13 Extruder with outlet opening
- 14 Support rollers
- 15 Pressure applicator roller
- 16 Pins
- 17 Vulcanization channel--

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 8 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--FIG. 3 shows a tube mat 7 1 with the tubes 8 2. In the manufacture of ~~said~~ this tube mat, which is initially produced in the form of a web-shaped structure, several tube closures ~~9, 10~~ 3, 3 are formed which, as opposed to the exemplified embodiment according to FIG. 1, extend in a line "X" perpendicular to the extrusion direction "Y". The tubes 8 2 are closed in this connection at an adjustable interval "b", specifically with formation of a closed tube segment "V".--

Please replace the last paragraph on page 8 bridging pages 8 and 9 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--FIG. 4 shows the cross section (A-A) of the tube mat 7 1 according to FIG. 3, whereby the tubes 8 2, viewed in the cross section, substantially have the shape of a semicircle specifically in an alternative arrangement of the structure. However, tubes with another cross sectional shape (e.g. circular) are possible as well.--

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 9 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Now, FIG. 5 shows a longitudinal section (B-B) through the tube mat 7 1 according to FIG. 3, specifically with formation of a closed tube 8 2. The same applies with respect to the tube closure 9, ~~10~~ 3, 3 as to the tube closure 3 according to FIG. 2.--